IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Shores et al. Docket No. 31849.42 / P11711.00 \$\text{\tin}\text{\tetx}\\ \text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\texict{\texi}\text{\texi}\text{\text{\texi}\text{\texi}\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\texi}\text{\texi}\text{\texitilex{\texit{\text{\texi}\text{\texitilex{\tiint{\texitilex{\tiint{\ Application No.: 10/698,177 Group Art Unit: 3733 Filed: October 31, 2003 Examiner: Jerry L. Cumberledge Surgical Instrument with Angled Confirmation No.: 9899 For:

Mail Stop: AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attachment

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION **MAILED NOVEMBER 14, 2008**

I. **Introductory Comments**

The present paper is being submitted in response to the Final Office Action mailed November 14, 2008.

No fees, including extension of time fees, are believed necessary for consideration of the present paper. However, if any fees, including extension of time fees are necessary, the Applicants hereby petition for the extension of time, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, including those for the extension of time, to Haynes and Boone, LLP's Deposit Account No. 08-1394.

Listing of the Claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.